

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. Apparatus comprising:

an automated banking machine including a housing;

5 a cash dispenser in supporting connection with the housing;

at least one input device in supporting connection with the housing adapted to
receive inputs associated with each user of the machine;

10 a transport adapted to move items between an opening in the housing, wherein
items in the opening are accessible from outside the machine, and at least one
item storage area in the housing;

the transport including a generally smooth platen surface including a curved portion;

at least one movable belt flight biased toward engagement with the curved portion of the platen surface, wherein items are moved between the opening and the at least one storage area in sandwiched relation between the at least one belt flight and the curved portion of the platen surface.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1 and further comprising:

at least one first biasing roll movably mounted in supporting connection with the housing and movable relatively away from the platen surface, and wherein the at least one first biasing roll biases the at least one belt flight toward the curved portion of the platen surface, wherein the at least one first biasing roll is located adjacent a first end of the curved portion of the platen surface.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2 and further comprising:

at least one second biasing roll movably mounted in supporting connection with the housing and movable relatively away from the platen surface, and wherein the at least one second biasing roll biases the at least one belt flight toward the curved

portion of the platen surface, and wherein the at least one second biasing roll is located adjacent a second end of the curved portion of the platen surface, wherein the second end is generally opposed of the first end.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3 and further comprising a spring, wherein the
5 at least one second biasing roll is biased towards the platen surface by the spring.

5. The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the at least one second biasing roll comprises a pair of disposed rolls engaging one belt flight, each of the rolls being biased towards the platen surface through force applied by at least one leaf spring.

6. The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the curved portion includes at least
10 one aperture, wherein at least one support roll extends in the at least one aperture.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the curved portion includes at least one aperture, and wherein at least one support roll extends in the at least one aperture.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the at least one aperture is bounded transversely by a pair of opposed pockets, and wherein each support roll is in operative
15 connection with opposed shaft portions extending therefrom, wherein one of each of the shaft portions extends in a pocket.

9. The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the at least one aperture is bounded transversely by a pair of opposed pockets, and wherein each support roll is in operative connection with opposed shaft portions extending therefrom, wherein one of each of the shaft portions extends in a pocket.

5 10. The apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the at least one support roll is aligned with at least one belt flight that engages the at least one belt flight when an item is not positioned in the transport between the at least one belt flight and the at least one support roll.

10 11. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein the platen surface includes a plurality of transversely disposed slots, and further comprising a plurality of movable sensor members, one of which sensor members movably extends in each of the slots, wherein items moving in the transport engage and move at least one of the sensor members, whereby items in the transport are sensed.

15 12. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the platen surface includes a plurality of transversely disposed slots, and further comprising a plurality of movable sensor members, one of which sensor members movably extends in each of the slots, wherein items moving in the transport engage and move at least one of the sensor members, wherein items in the transport are sensed.

13. The apparatus according to claim 11 and further comprising at least one outlet roll adjacent to the deposit opening, and further comprising at least one continuous belt in supporting connection with the at least one outlet roll, and wherein the at least one continuous belt includes the at least one belt flight.

5 14. The apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the at least one outlet roll is movably mounted in supporting connection with the housing and is movable away from the platen surface.

10 15. The apparatus according to claim 14 and further comprising at least one support roll in supporting connection with the housing and in underlying relation of the at least one outlet roll.

16. The apparatus according to claim 14 and further comprising at least one outlet shaft, and wherein the at least one outlet roll is in supporting connection with the at least one outlet shaft, wherein the at least one outlet shaft is movably mounted both vertically and rotationally in supporting connection with the housing.

15 17. The apparatus according to claim 16 and further comprising a pair of disposed generally vertically extending sidewalls extending adjacent the deposit opening, wherein each of

the sidewalls includes a slot, and wherein the outlet shaft is movable within and relative to the slot.

18. The apparatus according to claim 17 wherein each slot is an angled slot, wherein the slot extends closer to the deposit opening with increasing distance from the platen surface.

5 19. The apparatus according to claim 16 and further comprising at least one guide in supporting connection with the housing, wherein the at least one guide is operative to direct items moving in the transport toward the at least one output roll below the at least one outlet shaft.

10 20. The apparatus according to claim 17 and further comprising a pair of opposed guides, each of the guides in supporting connection with one of the sidewalls, wherein the guides are operative to direct items moving in the transport towards the at least one output roll below the at least one outlet shaft.

21. The apparatus according to claim 16 and further comprising at least one knobby roll in supporting connection with the at least one outlet shaft.

22. The apparatus according to claim 16 and further comprising a movable outlet gate movably mounted in supporting connection with the housing and selectively movable to block access between the transport and the outlet opening.

5 23. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the at least one belt flight is in supporting connection with at least one outlet roll adjacent the outlet opening, and wherein the at least one outlet roll is movably mounted both rotationally and vertically in supporting connection with the housing.

10 24. The apparatus according to claim 23 wherein the at least one outlet roll is in supporting connection with an outlet shaft, and further comprising at least one guide, wherein the at least one guide is operative to direct items moving in the transport toward the at least one outlet roll below the outlet shaft.

25. The apparatus according to claim 23 wherein the at least one outlet roll is in supporting connection with an outlet shaft, and further comprising at least one knobby roll in supporting connection with the outlet shaft.

15 26. The apparatus according to claim 16 and further comprising an extension portion, wherein the extension portion includes an outer portion of the platen surface, and wherein the

extension portion is releasibly engageable with the transport, and wherein the outlet shaft is in supporting connection with the extension portion.

27. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the transport includes an extension portion, wherein the extension portion is releasibly engageable with the transport, and wherein
5 the extension portion includes a portion of the platen surface.

28. The apparatus according to claim 26 wherein the item storage area comprises a deposit envelope storage area, and wherein deposit envelopes are moved in the housing from the opening in the housing through the transport to the item storage area.

29. The apparatus according to claim 28 and further comprising an empty envelope
10 dispenser in the housing, wherein empty envelopes are moved in the transport toward the opening in the housing.

30. The apparatus according to claim 29 and further comprising a gap in the housing adjacent the first biasing roll, wherein deposit envelopes moved through the transport move to the item storage area through the gap.

31. The apparatus according to claim 30 wherein empty envelopes dispensed by the dispenser in the machine move across the gap and engage the belt flight wherein empty envelopes move in the transport to the opening in the housing.

32. The apparatus according to claim 31 and further comprising a gate movably mounted in supported connection with the housing, wherein the gate is movable to extend below the gap.

33. The apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the housing comprises a chest portion and a cabinet portion separated by a dividing wall, and wherein a deposit envelope opening extends in the dividing wall below the gap, wherein deposit envelopes move through the deposit envelope opening to the storage area.

34. The apparatus according to claim 33 and further comprising a movable deposit holding container removably positioned in the chest portion, wherein the deposit holding container bounds the storage area.